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FRATERNITY EDUCATION

PROGRESS

The Fraternal Order of American Sportsmen

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Fraternity Education Progress

The Fraternal Order of American Sportsmen

Invitation

¶Ye who love the haunts of nature,
Love the sunshine of the meadow,
Love the shadow of the forest,
Love the wind among the branches,
And the rain-shower and the snow-storm,
And the rushing of great rivers
Through their palisades of pine trees,
Come and hear these wild traditions,
Of the Sportsmen true and brave.
¶Ye who love a nation's legends,
Love the pastime of a people,
Come and hear this sportsmen legend,
Of the song fraternal love.
¶Ye whose hearts are fresh and simple,
Who have faith in God and nature,
Who believe that in all ages,

Every human heart is human,
That in even savage bosoms
There are longings, yearnings, strivings,
For the good they comprehend not,
That the feeble hands and helpless,
Groping blindly in the darkness,
Touch God's right hand in that darkness,
And are lifted up and strengthened,—
For the work that is here to do.
¶All ye people of the nation,
Come and join "The American Sportsmen."
And as brothers live henceforward,
For in union there is strength.

A Fraternal Eulogy

¶We can only view from afar the magnificent structures which the brain and the conscience of this age have erected for the benefit of mankind. We can not estimate the genius that has planned this work, nor the architectural skill with which it has been molded. We can only view it as one of the forces for good which are transforming the spirit of the age.

¶There is a tie that binds us, man to man, as surely as a force holds earth to sun and sun to

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stars; our senses may be dull and we as little comprehend the law of brotherhood as did the men of pre-Newtonic days the law of gravity, and yet throughout the earth in every human heart is felt a force that we have learned to call fraternity.

¶The age of miracles is past, but wonders have not ceased. The rise and progress of the great fraternal organizations during the last four decades afford a notable and conspicuous instance where the borders of wonderland have been reached.

¶While historians are delving into the dim past searching out the origin of fraternal help, and the actuaries are endeavoring to agree upon a basis of calculation that will be mathematically and scientifically correct, it is interesting to a quiet observer to simply contemplate the system as it is, what it has done, and some of its possibilities for the future.

¶The history of the past is a gradual but sure, evolution from wrong, ignorance and oppression to civilization, liberty and fraternity. This evolution has come through blood and carnage. From Nero to the Edict of Nantes, Christianity was strengthened by the blood of martyrs. The

French Revolution and the ringing words of Luther enthroned the individual man and dethroned the despot. Caesar, the pagan, prepared the way for Christianity; Charlemagne, the barbarian, for civilization, and Napoleon, the bloody despot, for liberty. Truly, it has been a long and bloody road from the Nazarene, with his matchless teachings of the universal "Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man" to our present high civilization and fraternal spirit. This world can only be transformed from selfishness to brotherly love by the absolute recognition of the teachings of the Nazarene.

¶As we stand about our altars, pledged to care for and protect the rights of each individual, let us remember that, before God, all men are equal; that our individual rights are never fully secured until the rights of our brothers are also made certain.

¶Fraternity is spreading over our broad land, and every city, town, village, and hamlet, in every portion of our vast domain has one or more Fraternal Orders in its midst. The so called secret society has no fears for any one any longer. The term secret was a misnomer, applied to mystify the suspicious, that these things are

well understood, the good, honest word fraternal has become most popular. About the only secrets to any of the Orders now are the signs, grips, initiatory work, and pass-words, and these are necessary secrets, in order to protect the membership from outside imposters, and to recognize each other in moments of need, when traveling, or in danger. So, after all, what may appear to some as a terrible trespass upon American rights, is indeed a protection to our American liberties and the defender of our American homes.

¶There is not a Fraternal Order today but recognizes God as the Supreme Ruler of the universe. And in our "land of the free and home of the brave" the Constitution and Laws of the land are the Basic Principles of every Order.

¶We are taught to respect the rights of our fellows, to wrong no man, to "render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's" and to do unto all men as we would they should do unto us.

THE AMERICAN SPORTSMEN.

What We Are

¶The American Sportsmen (F. O. A. S.) is a national Fraternal Organization, carried on solely for the mutual benefit of its members and their families, having a lodge system with ritualistic form of work and a business form of government.

¶The objects of the Order are, vis:—To unite fraternally all white male persons, who believe in a Supreme Being as the creator and preserver of the universe, without reference to faith, creed or politics. To protect Americans and their home circle. To aid them in sickness and death. To advance the interest in the public schools and the teachings of the fundamental principles of the Holy Bible therein. To prevent cruelty to animals. To protect song, migratory and other harmless birds. To protect game of forest, field and stream. To influence the extension of forest reserves and the development by the government of all natural resources. To encourage military training.

¶To promote the progress of Science and Art. To encourage members to save a portion of their earnings through the Savings and Banking Association. To furnish authentic information

on any subject through the Bureau of General Research. To encourage and uplift to a higher plane all sports and recreation. To instill patriotism in every heart and extend the right hand of fellowship to all.

Matriculation

¶Any white male citizen of the United States of America, or persons who shall swear allegiance to the American flag, who shall have attained to the age of eighteen years, of good moral character, able to speak, read and write the English language, have industrious habits and possessed of some known reputable means of support, free from all infirmity and disease, a believer in a Supreme Being as the creator and preserver of the universe, possessed of such other qualifications as may be prescribed by the Supreme Camp, or laws of the Subordinate Camp duly approved, regardless of their inclinations toward sports of any character, shall be eligible for membership into the Fraternal Order of American Sportsmen.

Social Creed

¶Never before in the history of human events, has there been a greater plea for social betterment than at this age. We are now entering an epoch of the world's grandest period, an epoch when men as never before shall realize the full value of a character worthy of the name brother; a character who stands for the universal "Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man"; who believes that man should live as God intended; who believes that men should have entertainment and social pleasure which will elevate and bind them together in bonds of fellowship.

¶The realization of this great social movement will be unanimously assisted by the leading Fraternal Organizations of the day. The Fraternal Order of American Sportsmen, one of the foremost organizations in the minds of the American people, will take a principal part in this social movement, which will go down in Fraternal history as the Revolution of Social Degeneracy.

¶One prime object of the American Sportsmen, is to eradicate the offensive influences of the American Sports, placing them upon a higher plane and remove the barrier of disgust, which

has been propagated by the pious influences, arising from the offensive conduct of persons who do not fully appreciate the higher moral standard of entertainment and social pleasure. ¶The American Sportsmen believe that reputable sport should be brought into a closer relationship with the Christian church, as clean sports and recreation are elevating and contribute largely to the success of Christianity, Business and Education, the authority for this statement being well established by the fact that practically all universities and colleges maintain and encourage reputable sports.

¶Sports have always been a valuable agent of civilization and have wrought wonders in the Philippine Islands since the American soldiers first taught the Philippinos to play baseball. Games and exercises of strength, agility and endurance, have helped the development of friendly feelings between many of the different tribes of natives, who, not very long ago, were hostile. They have served to place upon an equal footing the different classes, one-half of whom were regarded formerly as virtual slaves for the other half. Sports are used successfully by teachers to foster among the boys and girls an inclination to become educated. Not only

have sports played their part in the Philippines, but in many other places throughout the world and are still serving as one of the forces for good, which is transforming the spirit of the Age.

Social Features

¶Each Subordinate Camp may provide for social quarters and club rooms, where members may assemble for their mutual benefit and enjoyment. These club rooms may consist of meeting halls, parlors, libraries, study rooms, music rooms, gymnasium, baths, billiard and pool rooms, bowling alley, basket ball, etc. But principally outdoor sports will be the prevailing social features, such as rifle practice, trap shooting, hunting clubs, camping, canoeing, swinging, base-ball, foot-ball, tennis, golf, etc. Each Subordinate Camp may have its own teams, and provide grounds for holding games and shooting events. A standard code of rules will govern all events.

Organized Sportsmen

¶By virtue of the Constitution and Laws of the Order, Sportsmen are organized into a national

body, which means everything to them; it enables them to keep in touch with their particular choice of sports and recreation, from an advantageous standpoint, by means of the Bureau of General Research, which keeps a complete record of base-ball players and serves as an exchange whereby teams may get in touch with teams and players; and furnish other information as they may desire. Gun clubs, hunting clubs and all other sports are managed in like manner.

Game Protective Association

I have given you lands to hunt in,
I have given you streams to fish in,
I have given you bear and bison,
I have given you roe and reindeer,
Filled the marshes full of wild-fowl,
Filled the rivers full of fishes,
Why then are ye not contented?
Why then will ye hunt each other?
Why not be at peace henceforward?
And as brothers live together.

(*Hiawatha*)

¶The American Sportsmen is a National Game Protective Association, co-operating with all

other organizations of like nature, for the protection of all game of forest, field and stream, and to influence legislation that will be necessary and expedient for carrying into effect the foregoing principles.

¶Each member will be expected to abide by the rules and regulations of the Game and Hunting Clubs, which provide for the protection of the farmers' stock and property, or be disciplined according to the Constitution and Laws of the Order.

¶The time is near, when a matriculation card of the American Sportsmen will be recognized by the farmer, or land owner, as sufficient recommendation upon which to grant the holder a permit to hunt, fish, or camp upon his premises.

Bureau of General Research

¶In order to protect the interest of our members against the fraudulant schemes which are floating on the market, we have established a Bureau of General Research thoroughly competent of furnishing authentic information upon any subject of a fair and proper nature.

¶The value and importance of this Bureau is readily seen, in so much as it places at the service of any member, the combined intellectual power and long years of commercial experience of highly efficient men.

¶It does not matter where you may live, or what your position in life might be, there will no doubt come a time when you will have occasion to make inquiry regarding certain subjects, such as: Bible questions, History of the World, Great Personages, Scientific Discoveries and Inventions, Industry and Commerce, Sports and Recreation. Ratings on individuals and companies, with whom you are negotiating a business transaction, will be carefully investigated, and should there be a doubt, as to the feasibility of such transaction, the member will be given the benefit of the doubt.

¶Thousands of men have lost snug fortunes by investing in the stock of various enterprises, which proved to be more of an experiment than a practical undertaking, without making any previous investigation.

¶The American Sportsmen endeavors to safeguard its members from such transactions, by furnishing them with the best ratings possible to secure by legitimate means.

¶This protection and service is yours, by becoming a subscriber to the Bureau of General Research and a member of the American Sportsmen, while the fees and dues do not exceed the amount charged by many other single organizations.

How to Acquire a Fortune

¶The acquiring of a fortune is built up like a wall of Masonry, a stone at a time. The young man who declines to lay the first stone, because it falls so far short of being a wall, will never make progress along the lines of financial Masonry.

¶It is a certainty that the young man who considers it not worth while to save small amounts, will never have large ones to save; he is like the man who declines to go to work until he can start in at a big salary.

¶The first savings of some of our leading financiers, would look very small, even to the average laborer of today; but they were seeds from which sprang increased profits and enthusiasm in business and finance. Saving is a habit and grows like the grass in the springtime, under the influence of rain and sunshine.

¶By means of a scientifically calculated Savings and Banking Association, members of the American Sportsmen are materially assisted in cultivating the habit of saving a portion of their earnings. A system that does not convey title of the deposits to the Association, but retains title in favor of the depositor, with option as to the Banking Institution that he desires to make his depository.

¶Members may enroll for any number of years, but no term shall be for a shorter period than five years, and for no less amount than twenty-five cents per week. Members are prohibited from withdrawing their accounts, or any portion thereof, previous to the expiration of their contract, except in case of sickness or death of member, or member of his family, or to pay the premium on a life insurance policy should he be unable to do so otherwise, as the Order holds that Life Insurance is a necessary protection for a man's family, or those dependent upon him for support.

¶Estimates go to show that fifty per cent. of the wage earners throughout the country would be incapable of supporting themselves and families from their own resources, for a greater period than sixty days, should their income cease, as

this percentage of the wage earners has not created an emergency fund to provide for such cases as they should have done, through the medium of a saving fund. After all, the acquiring of a fortune is only the habit of saving.

¶Let the American Sportsmen help you by becoming a member; by doing so you will help others.

Commercial Training Course

¶In order that our members may be better qualified for the battles of life, we have prepared in our ritualistic work, a scientific and practical course of salesmanship, which will enable them to more intelligently represent themselves, as well as to represent others. It will be a valued assistance to them in the negotiation of any business transaction, or in their social walk of life.

¶Salesmanship is being used each day, by every man or woman, regardless of their occupations. Men will study for years to attain an education, why? because they are enabled to demand a higher price for their service, or in other words, they can sell their service for a higher price. The man who can approach the management of a

concern, gracefully and courtly present himself, stands far the best show in securing employment over his untrained brothers, who ofttimes find it difficult to secure employment.

¶The science of salesmanship is important and valuable to every man; but it lies with him, whether he will make good or bad use of it. He should make such use of it as will add to the lasting satisfaction of buyer and seller alike, and contribute to the wise distribution of the products of the world.

Why You Should Join the American Sportsmen

¶Because the social features are the peers, if not supreme to those of any other organization now in existence.

¶In no other organization can a higher degree of true fraternity be found, than in the Fraternal Order of American Sportsmen.

¶The Ritual is beautiful, historical and educational, as well as impressive.

¶The benefits paid by the American Sportsmen are equal if not superior to those paid by any other organization.

¶The Savings and Banking Association will help you financially.

¶The Bureau of General Research will help you intellectually.

¶The Commercial Training Course will help you commercially.

¶The principles of the Order will help you morally.

¶The environments of the Order will help your community.

¶By becoming a member of the Order you will help others.

¶The fees are within your reach, the principles are elevating and are free from religious or political favoritism. Join issue with us and be one of the builders of the greatest organizations in fraternal history.

How to Apply for Membership

¶Persons authorized to solicit membership for the Fraternal Order of American Sportsmen, are bonified members in good standing, of a reputable character, and have on their person, a creden-

tial showing them to be such, authorizing them to take your application and fees thereon and receipt you for same with the official receipt of the Order. Reports of any infractions on the part of such commissioned members will be gladly received at the Home Office.

¶It does not matter where you reside, you may join us by applying direct to Home Office for application and information.

¶Do not hesitate joining the Fraternal Order of American Sportsmen. It is an organization, conducted on absolute business principles, by practical and honest men with honest purposes. ¶For further information write to,

THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF AMERICAN SPORTSMEN
Dayton, Ohio.

Or.

Mr. . . . . .

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